





































































May 9, 1942

Dear Babe:

Many thanks for your letter of congratulations. There is nothing that has made me feel so proud as your confidence in me and the help that you gave me, without which I do not think I could have received a commission of the type that has been granted me.

So far as your paper in Chicago is concerned, I have already talked to my successors who will be Sylvan Kaufman as Acting General Manager and Sidney Natkin as Assistant. You know that ~~both of~~ their feelings - particularly in the case of Sidney - are more than friendly. Additionally, Jack Morrison enjoys the warm regard and affection of everyone in our organization and has done a splendid job in maintaining liaison between our two businesses. Therefore, I think we both may look forward to a continuation of pleasant relationship even in our joint absence.

I am sorry Mrs. Meigs will not be in Washington when we are there, but Carola and I hope that you will have an evening free, if I should have any time off, so that we can be together.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Mr. Merrill C. Meigs,  
War Production Board,  
Washington, D. C.



WAR PRODUCTION BOARD

WASHINGTON, D. C.

IN REPLY REFER TO:

May 5, 1942

Dear Major:

Your telegram received. My heartiest congratulations! I feel that I have done my country a great service in helping to get a man of your ability into an officer's uniform. I may have hurt my newspaper and my own interests by doing this. Perhaps you ask why --. Well, I am still being paid my salary by the Hearst organization.

I believe with you in Chicago that the paper would get a better break than it would with you away from Chicago. If you have heard the story about the colored boy who was going to have to fight a bear, who said "Lord, if you can't help me don't help the bear." So, before you leave tell the boys to at least give the Herald-American an even break in your absence.

Mrs. Meigs is going back to Chicago on Thursday, so she won't be here when you come for your final instructions. I hope to be here and shall look forward to sitting down with you before you make the big dive.

My kindest regards to Mrs. Meigs and yourself.

Sincerely yours,

*Merrill C. Meigs*  
Merrill C. Meigs

P. S. I have dropped a note to McNamee telling him that if the Army has no rules against it, and you are agreeable, that we might run a little story about your commission and suggested that he call you.

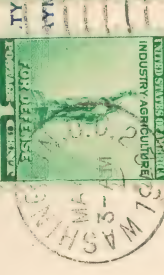


Major Leon Mandel  
Mandel Brothers,  
State and Madison  
Chicago, Illinois

*Recd 5/8/42*  
B



PRODUCTION BOARD  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Major Leon Mandel  
c/o Mandel Brothers  
State and Madison Sts.,  
Chicago, Illinois

PERSONAL

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

Serial No. 3521716

Q R3/P14-2(410920-4)

DEC 29 1941

*Levi*

Dear ~~Mr. Mandel~~:

Subsequent to the receipt of your letter I heard from Harry Hopkins who mentioned your desire to be of service to our country. It is with genuine regret that I inform you that as a result of your physical examination, the Bureau of Navigation has found it necessary at this time not to approve your request for an I-V(S) commission. You are probably aware that your eyes and blood pressure do not approach the requirements of the Service for commission.

Please accept my appreciation for your past services to the Navy and the country. We shall not hesitate to call on you again when and if the circumstances arise.

Sincerely,

Mr. Leon Mandel  
Yacht Carola  
Balboa, Canal Zone

*Frank Knox*

SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

WASHINGTON

OFFICIAL BUSINESS



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE \$300

Mr. Leon Mandel  
Yacht Carola  
Balboa, Canal Zone

P.O. Box 144,

Havana,  
Cuba.





NAVY DEPARTMENT  
*Capt. Byrd*  
15TH NAVAL DISTRICT  
BALBOA, CANAL ZONE



*The Dean Mandel,  
40 Mandel Bros.,  
Chicago,  
Illinois.*

**5¢** **WEATHER**  
Partly cloudy. High  
change Saturday.  
High 64; low 22. See  
Page 8, Second Sec.

**CHICAGO**  
**SUN-TIMES**

★ ★ ★ ★  
**FINAL**  
EDITION

Russ Stewart





Miss and Mrs. Marshall

18 March -

At 1



SOUTHERN CROSS

Just had to buy a lot of things or we would have dropped  
in on you -



ON BOARD THE  
SOUTHERN CROSS

Dear Clara and Mister Maundel -

Truly disappointed not to be able to  
accept your invitation and miss the fun I know  
we'll have - but we are going through at one  
o'clock on our way to Braemar - from there  
to Kassar around December's beginning. If



your coming towards the Bahamas we  
should all be delighted to see you. We may re-  
turn to Freetown after the New Year - so you  
can see we enjoyed it there.

We were quite thrilled to see the "Carla".  
Perhaps will anchor near each other a third time.  
Mr. Wm. - Gen, Gen & Sister Ellen send greetings  
to all on board - not forgetting Louis - Margaret W. G.



Mrs. Leon Mandel  
Yacht "Carola"  
Biltmore Hotel Dock  
Palm Beach





Bert Morgan

PHOTOGRAPHER  
POST OFFICE BOX 9  
Jamaica 31, N. Y.

Return Postage Guaranteed



Mr Leon Mandel  
45 - East Oak St,  
Chicago,  
Ill.

A-149

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**Bert Morgan**  
PHOTOGRAPHER  
POST OFFICE BOX 9  
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*Miss Leon Mandel  
45 - East Oak St  
Chicago  
Ill.*

*a-149*

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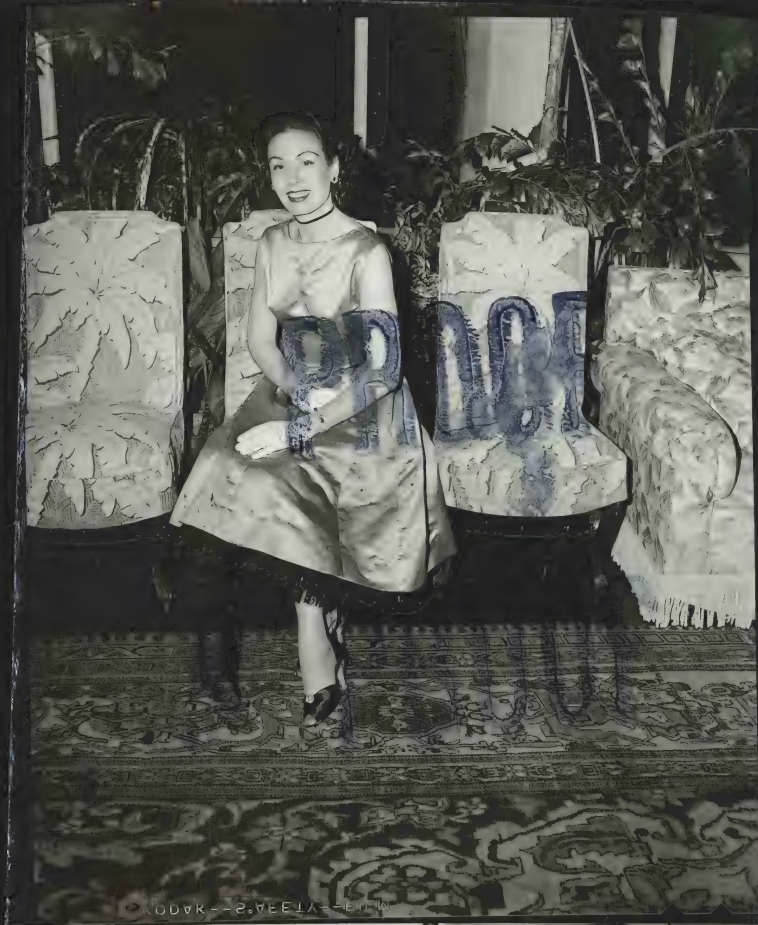


a-150

Mrs Leon Mandel  
c/o Yacht Carola  
Biltmore Dock  
Palm Beach  
Fla.

PHOTOGRAPHS  
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A95274  
2

"Bert and Richard Morgan"  
PHOTO BY  
POST OFFICE BOX 27  
PALM BEACH, FLORIDA  
TELEPHONE VI 4-1775

a-150

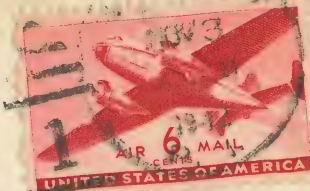


Mrs. Leon Mandel  
3250 W. 45th St.  
W. Palm Bch. FL 33409



NELSON-WESTERBERG, INC.  
1201 Arthur Avenue  
ELK GROVE VILLAGE, ILLINOIS 60007





Major Leon Mandel, U.S. A.R.,  
2511 Massachusetts Avenue N. W.,  
Washington,  
D. C.

118 WASHINGTON STREET  
NEWPORT  
RHODE ISLAND

118 WASHINGTON STREET

NEWPORT

RHODE ISLAND

1 November 1942

Major Leon Mandel U . S . A . R.,  
2511 Massachusetts, Ave N. W.,  
Washington,  
D. C.

My dear Leon:-

This is intended to confirm my part of our conversation by telephone the other evening when you informed me that your loyalty to the United States had been questioned officially and that the doubt seemed to have been raised by the fact that some of the people with whom you associated while on a cruise to South and Central America in your yacht, "The Carola", during 1941 were Axis minded. You stated that the doubt had been reported from sources within the Navy Department.

I have some knowledge of your activities from May to September 1941 since during that time you were carrying out directives that I had prepared as Commandant of the Fifteenth Naval District. These directives were for you to gather information which was believed to be more readily available to you as a cruising yachtsman than to an openly accredited representative. However the Department of State representatives in the countries you were asked to visit were informed of your identity and the purpose of your operations in order that your position might be understood by them. In this I refer to the United States Department of State, of course.

An allotment of money was made available to you through the Office of Naval Intelligence which, if used, would have paid some of the extra expense of the expedition in which you were engaged. However you declined to use any of this money and bore the whole expense from your private purse. I remember that in a conversation with me after the cruise was terminated you stated that you derived considerable personal pleasure in



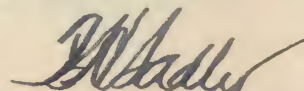
118 WASHINGTON STREET  
NEWPORT  
RHODE ISLAND

the feeling that possibly you had been able to contribute some small service to your country.

The reports which you made and submitted to the Commandant of the Fifteenth Naval District have been made part of the Official records of the Office of Naval Intelligence and will bear evidence of your care in their preparation and of your zeal and ingenuity in carrying out the directives that had been prepared for you. In these reports you commented on certain people in the different countries that you visited and gave your opinion as to their proper classification from the viewpoint of their politics. While you were in Panama I knew of your activities through the local papers and by personal observation. Some of the people whom you contacted there, such as the Spanish Minister (El Conde de Bailen, subsequently declared hombre non gracia by the Government of Panama) were known to be under Axis influence and in frequent conferences with the German Minister. Your reports of information obtained from these sources are also on record and will show that you were getting information through the contacts while at the same time cleverly concealing the fact that you had any connection with the Department of Naval Intelligence.

When changed conditions made it inadvisable to continue these cruises you were informed of the fact and letters of appreciation were forwarded to you. I am not aware of any communication originating in the Fifteenth Naval District that mentioned your loyalty since that had been taken as a matter of course. I trust that the investigation which you tell me is now being made will confirm that fact and remove from your mind any regret that you may now entertain for having undertaken this secret mission which you tell me that you believe to be the cause of it all.

Very sincerely yours



**Bert Morgan**  
**Richard Morgan**  
PHOTOGRAPHERS  
POST OFFICE BOX 27  
Palm Beach, Florida

Return Postage Guaranteed



Mr. and Mrs. Leon Mandel  
45 East Oak St  
Chicago  
Illinois

A-153

File

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C.P.M. & L.M.

Van Dorn

55-56

M

A 90991

PHOTO BY  
"Bob Morgan"  
POST OFFICE BOX 27  
PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

C.P.M. & L.M.  
Mr. & Mrs. Stratton

1455-1456

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PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

PHOTO BY  
"Bob Morgan"

A 96988



Edith Ford

Lm.

1955-56

Winter

POST OFFICE BOX 27  
PALM BEACH, FLORIDA

PHOTO BY  
"Bert Morgan"

796890

Edith Ford

Benson Ford

CPH

Winter  
1955

706934

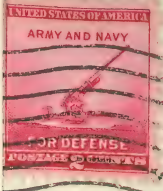
PHOTO BY

"Bert Morgan"

POST OFFICE BOX 27  
PALM BEACH, FLORIDA



4321 No Damen Ave  
Chicago Ill 5/7-'42



To:   
Major Leon Mandel,  
Though, I am only a small  
unit in your large organization  
I would like to take the liberty  
to congratulate you, for the  
high rank of officer you have  
just received, in the service  
of our country.

I hope that peace and victory  
will not be too far off - so.  
until then, may God's blessings  
and good luck be with you  
at all times.

Most Sincerely

Ask  
who is the person -  
dept? MR, 5/8/42

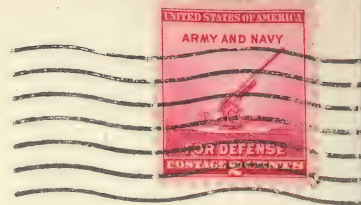
Glenn B. Webster -  
Inspection Dept Super.  
Cuda attached -

to  
Ill

from A. B. W.

4371 No Damen Ave

Chicago Ill



To  
Major Leon Mandel  
# 1 No State St  
Chicago Ill



319 CRESCENT DRIVE  
LAKE BLUFF, ILLINOIS

First meeting of  
the Poodle & Champagne  
Club!

DEPARTMENT

PROCUREMENT AND MATERIAL  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

~~OFFICIAL BUSINESS~~

Mr. Leon Mandell  
Mandell Brothers  
Chicago, Illinois



Duplicate of what is on  
book

Pictures from  
Russia  
+ negatives

I-119



Glossies of Mrs. Mandel which  
appeared in PARADE Magazine  
March 29, 1953, with exception  
of one with dog - sent to C.P.M.  
du - 4-14-53.

✓  
D-107















